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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Feb. 16, 2022

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Jefferson Street bridge reopens, Jackson Street bridge closes in Joliet

Cass Street bridge to return to one-way westbound

CHICAGO – The Illinois Department of Transportation announced today that the Jefferson Street (U.S. 30) bridge over the Des Plaines River, in Joliet, will reopen, weather permitting, after the morning rush, Monday, Feb. 21.

The movable bridge was closed last year to accommodate repairs to the mechanical components.

Shortly after the reopening of Jefferson Street, the Jackson Street bridge will close, with an anticipated reopening in late April. The closure is necessary for the installation of new aerial cables and control system, along with various tender house upgrades. The work is part of an ongoing project to upgrade the downtown movable bridges that will allow them to be controlled from a central location, creating a more efficient system of lifting and lowering the bridges and increasing safety for pedestrians, motorists and marine traffic.

A detour will direct traffic to Scott Street (Illinois 53), Ruby Street (Illinois 53) and Broadway Street (Illinois 53).

In addition, the Cass Street (U.S. 30) bridge will return to one-way westbound traffic beginning, weather permitting, Saturday, Feb. 26. To implement these changes, Cass Street, between Hickory and Joliet streets, will temporarily close, starting at 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Due to the short nature of the closure, no detour will be posted. Alternative routes are encouraged.

Upon reopening, motorists should expect one-way westbound traffic on Cass Street. The current posted weight restrictions on the bridge will remain in place.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to flaggers and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits and be on the alert for workers and equipment.

Click here to find details on other construction projects in IDOT's District 1. Updates on the impacts to traffic are available at www.travelmidwest.com.